

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 05531 080117Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SCA-01 CPR-01 PER-01 SSO-00
/014 W

-----026598 080119Z /65

O R 080057Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1057
INFO DEPT OF AGRICULTURE (FAS)
DEPT OF AGRICULTURE (FSQS)

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 5531

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP
SUBJ: LITIGATION INVOLVING U.S. CITIZEN EMPLOYEE

REF: STATE 161887

1. CORONER ON AUGUST 5 HELD HEARING ON DR. ROGER MEISNER
ACCIDENT AND ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS (CONFIRMED BY
DFA PROTOCOL CHIEF HALL WHO HAD OBSERVER PRESENT) MEISNER
WOULD HAVE BEEN CALLED ON TO STAND TRIAL ON CHARGE OF CULPABLE
DRIVING HAD HE NOT BEEN ENTITLED TO DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY.

2. OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT OF CORONER'S INQUEST HAS BEEN REQUESTED
FROM PROTOCOL, BUT CAN BE EXPECTED ONLY AFTER TWO WEEKS DELAY.
CHIEF OF PROTOCOL HAS MADE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT GOA EXPECTS
EMBASSY TO TAKE PROMPT ACTION TO DEMONSTRATE THAT U.S.
TAKES SITUATION SERIOUSLY. PRESS HAS ALREADY INQUIRED IF
MEISNER WILL BE TRANSFERRED FROM AUSTRALIA, AND CON-
SIDERABLE PUBLICITY IS BEING GENERATED.

3. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCE, EMBASSY HAS CONCLUDED THAT CONTINUED
PRESENCE OF DR. MEISNER IN AUSTRALIA IS EMBARRASSING TO EMBASSY,
TO U.S. GOVT, AND NOT IN BEST INTERESTS OF U-AUSTRALIAN RE-
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LATIONS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ANY TRANSFER PRESENTS CONSIDERABLE
PERSONAL AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP FOR DR. MEISNER, BUT WE SEE NO
ALTERNATIVE. IN ORDER TO FORESTALL POSSIBLE OFFICIAL REQUEST
FROM GOA TO U.S. GOVT, WE REQUEST THAT DR. MEISNER BE TRANS-
FERRED FROM AUSTRALIA WITHOUT DELAY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE
RECEIVING TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION FOR TRANSFER DR. MEISNER
BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM; HE WOULD BE EXPECTED TO HAVE REASONABLE

PERIOD, UPT TO ONE WEEK, TO MAKE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS
PRIOR TO LEAVING.

4. EMBASSY, AFTER RECEIVING DR. MEISNER'S TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION,
INTENDS TO ANNOUNCE THAT "DR. ROGER MEISNER, THE ATTACHE OF THE
AMERICAN EMBASSY IN CANBERRA WHO WAS INVOLVED IN A FATAL
AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT IN MAY, WILL RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES
SHORTLY."

5. COPIES OF EXCHANGE OF NOTES, PERTINENT MEMCONS, AND
TRANSCRIPT OF CORONER'S INQUEST WILL FOLLOW BY POUCH.
ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LITIGATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PDIP, CGEN, CARR, US
To: STATE
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